Creation of Daftary post in RRBs

*598. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had advised all sponsoring banks in 1992 to create posts of Daftary in RRBs as existing in rural branches of commercial banks;

(b) if so, whether the State Bank of India has failed to create the same in all branches like other sponsored banks, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the State Bank of India extended the cashier-in-charge allowance in RRBs at industry level like other commercial banks; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to rectify this contradictory stand in extending these two allowances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had advised in 1991 that the practice as prevalent in rural branches of sponsor banks may be allowed in Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to pay special allowance to only one peon attached to a branch who has been doing work of Daftary including all types of work supposed to be done by a sub-staff.

(c) Yes, Sir. State Bank of India (SBI) has extended the cashier-in-charge allowance in RRBs at industry level like in other commercial banks as per instructions issued by NABARD.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a), (b) and (c) above.

VRS in Export Inspection Agency

*599. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Export Inspection Agency implemented Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in 1994 after an Internal Work Study (IWS);

(b) if so, the number of surplus staff as per IWS and total number of staff who opted VRS;

(c) whether new appointments including that of an advisor were made after 2000; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor together with the details of appointments made, qualifications of the appointees and justification for each appointment in the light of the IWS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Internal Work Study (IWS) had identified 1134 staff members as surplus out of which 870 staff members opted for VRS.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) After an another Internal Work Study of Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) conducted in 1997-98 and finalised in the year, 2000, and in view of the requirement for technically qualified staff in the context of emerging scenario under WTO regime, Export Inspection Council (EIC) has made direct recruitment of 13 Assistant Director (Technical), 2 Assistant Director (Non-Technical) and 8 Technical Officers. All appointments were done in accordance with the qualifications prescribed in the Recruitment Rules for the posts.

EIC have also requisitioned temporarily the services of two Consultants, one for Information Systems and other for Systems and Corporate Audit from the sister organisations *viz.* Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) to make up the required skills and resources lacking in EIC. The Consultant for Systems and Corporate Audit, designated as Adviser, has necessary background in Corporate Audit and Documentation while the Consultant for Information Systems has the required background of having handled computerization in his previous organization.

Credit scheme of NABARD for rural women

*600. DR. DASARINARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD has introduced some exclusive schemes for rural women to provide easy credit to them for starting their ventures in non-farm products;